

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 L-03 EB-11

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 2800

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH

USINT CAIRO BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS BEIRUT 7302

CURRENT REACTION, ATTN IOR/ M, IBS, IPS, INE

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: NIXON- BREZHNEV SUMMIT - PEKING' S GULF POLICY

1. SIGNING OF FOUR AGREEMENTS BY U. S. AND USSR WIDELY REPORTED. BREZHNEV' S ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON TELEVISED. SUMMIT TALKS COMMENTED ON BY SEVERAL PAPERS.

2. INDEPENDENT LISAN AL HAL REMINDED EGYPT, WHICH " DOES NOT SEEM TO BE HAPPY ABOUT BREZHNEV' S VISIT TO U. S.," THAT " MOSCOW' S ECONOMIC INTEREST DICTATES THAT IT REACH UNDERSTANDING WITH U. S." PAPER FOUND THREAT BY EGYPTIAN PRESS THAT EGYPT WOULD CLOSE MEDITERRANEAN IN FACE OF SOVIET FLEET " ABSURD AND INEFFECTIVE IN REVERSING SOVIET POLICY." ARABS HAVE RIGHT, PAPER SAID, " TO BE APPREHENSIVE

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OF SOVIET- AMERICAN SUMMIT BUT IT IS NOT IN THEIR INTEREST
TO LOSE FRIENDSHIP OF THEIR BIG FRIEND WITHOUT HAVING
SUBSTITUTE ON SAME LEVEL."

3. LEFTIST PRO- SOVIET ASH SHAAB EMPHASIZED, " ON BASIS OF
WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT SINCERITY OF USSR AND ITS DEEP EXPERIENCE
WITH PEOPLE, THOSE WHO TALK ABOUT ANY DEVIATION IN
SOVIET POLICY FOR BENEFIT OF U. S. IMPERIALISM ARE GREATLY
MISTAKEN. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT SUMMIT MEETING WILL BE
FRUITFUL BECAUSE FORCES OF PEACE IN WORLD ARE MULTIPLYING
AND WARMONGERS ARE DECREASING."

4. INDEPENDENT AN NAHAR FOUND BREZHNEV' S MOVE IN MEETING
POMPIDOU " TO REPORT TO HIM ON HIS TALKS WITH NIXON,"
UNPRECEDENTED IN EAST OR WEST. IT IS MOTIVATED BY FACT
THAT " MOSCOW CONSIDERS POMPIDOU TO BE LEADER OF EUROPE
AND FINDS THAT LEADERSHIP OF WEST IS NO LONGER IN HANDS
OF U. S. ALONE. VISIT IS ALSO EXPLAINED AS COUNTER- MEASURE
TO WHAT NIXON DID WHEN HE VISITED PEKING IN ADDITION TO
MOSCOW."

5. AN NAHAR CRITICIZED CHINESE FONMIN FOR HIS STATEMENT
SUPPORTING IRAN' S POLICY IN GULF. PAPER SAID: " CHINA' S
SUPPORT OF IRAN' S POLICY MEANS PEKING HAS CHOSEN ITS
INTEREST AT EXPENSE OF PRINCIPLES, HISTORY, ARABS AND RIGHTS
OF OTHERS... CHINA' S ATTITUDE MEANS ABANDONING OF FRIENDS
WHO HELD FIRMLY IN DHOFAR MOUNTAINS AND FRIENDS IN GULF
AND WHOLE ARAB AREA WHO NEVER EXPECTED THAT CHINA' S
HOSTILITY TO MOSCOW WOULD REACH EXTENT OF SIDING WITH THOSE
WHO ARE OPPONENTS OF ARABS IN CONNECTION WITH GULF
ISSUE. CHINA' S SURPRISING ATTITUDE IS LIABLE
TO EMBARRASS PEKING' S FRIENDS IN ARAB WORLD WHO WILL FIND
DIFFICULTY IN DIFFERENTIATING BETWEEN ROGERS STATEMENTS
AND THOSE OF MAO' S FONMIN."
HOUGHTON

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